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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/964,117	PACKINGHAM ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Matthew J Sked	2655	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-45_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-45_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on _26 September 2001_ is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _9/26/01_.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Double Patenting

1.   The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970);and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

2.   Claims 25-32 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5 and 7-9 of copending Application No. 10/224,077. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because all the limitations taught in claim 1 of application 10/224,077 are taught in claim 25 of the current application except that the conflicting claim also has the limitation that the application-processing module contains "lists of suggested bookmark-names for the voice command application". It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to drop this limitation to make the claim broader

Claims 26-29 of the current application are identical to claims 2-5 of application 10/224,077 and claims 30-32 of the current application are identical to claims 7-9 of application 10/224,077.

This is a <u>provisional</u> obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Specification

3.   The attempt to incorporate subject matter into this application by reference to i) "Method and System for Dynamic Control Over Voice-processing in a Voice Command Platform", (ii) "Method and System for Use of Navigation History in a Voice Command Platform,", and (iii) "Method and System for Consolidated Message Notification in a Voice Command Platform" is improper because the application numbers are not given.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5.   Claims 1-24 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Alshawi et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub. 2002/0072914A1).

6.   As per claim 1, Alshawi teaches a voice command system comprising:

a user communication interface for communication with users via a telecommunications network (computer telephony platform, paragraph 26);

a processor (Fig. 2, element 203);

an application-processing module executable by the processor to process voice command applications (Fig. 1, element 115), the voice command applications defining allowed grammars and application logic (context database contains a set of exemplar action specifications for each application program, paragraph 37);

a voice processing module executable by the processor to recognize grammars in speech signals received from a user via the user communication interface (recognizer, Fig. 1, element 106 and paragraph 30); and

aliasing-logic executable by the processor, upon recognition of an alias grammar in a speech signal received from the user, to convert the alias grammar to an actual grammar, and to recognize the actual grammar as an allowed grammar defined by a voice command application (variation matcher matches the recognized word from the variant database with its corresponding exemplar and from there executes the application action, paragraph 32) .

7.   As per claim 2, Alshawi teaches the aliasing-logic uses a predefined set of correlations between alias grammars and actual grammars to convert between an alias grammar and an actual grammar (variant command file contains each exemplar for the context and all corresponding variants, paragraph 34).

8.   As per claim 3, Alshawi teaches the processor uses at least a subset of the predefined set of correlations regardless of the user who is communicating with the voice command system and substantially regardless of which voice command

application the processor is processing (variants present in database for all users, paragraph 78).

9.   As per claim 4, Alshawi teaches the aliasing-logic comprises user profile data that indicates, respectively for each of a plurality of users, correlations between alias grammars and actual grammars (users can customize the variant database, paragraph 74).

10.   As per claim 5, Alshawi teaches the user profile data correlates a given actual grammar with a first alias grammar for a first user and the user profile data correlates the given actual grammar with a second alias grammar for a second user (customization server contains customized context files for each user so each user would have different variants for the exemplars, paragraph 75).

11.   As per claim 6, Alshawi teaches:

a user profile store containing the user profile data (customization server contains customized context files, paragraph 75); and

personalization-logic executable by the processor for retrieving from the user profile store the correlations between alias grammars and actual grammars (when users uses the system the customized context will be available to the user hence an executable for retrieving these correlations would be inherent, paragraph 78).

12.   As per claim 7, Alshawi teaches the personalization-logic is executable by the processor to retrieve the correlations during a voice command session with the user (recognizer can dynamically load and switch between language models from the variant database, paragraph 30).

13.   As per claim 8, Alshawi teaches the personalization-logic is executable by the

processor to retrieve the correlations at the initiation of the voice command session with

the user (variants uploaded into the variant database after customization hence

available at the initiation of the voice command session, paragraph 78).

14.   As per claim 9, Alshawi teaches that the processor executes the aliasing logic

substantially regardless of which voice command application the processor is currently

processing (variant database contains command files for a plurality of applications

hence the logic will be executed regardless of which application is currently being

processed, paragraph 33).

15.   As per claim 10, Alshawi teaches a memory wherein the user profile data for a

given user is stored in memory in the platform during a voice command session with the

given user (server has a memory with customized context files for users, paragraph 75).

16.   As per claim 11, Alshawi teaches a provisioning-logic for receiving a set of user-

defined correlations between alias grammars and actual grammars (customization

module, paragraph 77).

17.   As per claim 12, Alshawi teaches the provisioning-logic comprises a web

interface accessible by a user via a computer network (user can use a web browser to

access the context customizer, paragraph 74).

18.   As per claim 13, Alshawi teaches the telecommunications network comprises a

wireless communication link (cellular network, paragraph 25).

19.   As per claim 14, Alshawi teaches a method of responding to a first grammar

spoken by a user to a voice command platform comprising:

recognizing the first grammar in a speech signal received from the user

(recognizer recognizes the input from the user, paragraph 30);

converting the first grammar into a second grammar (variation matcher uses

variation database to map the recognized string to the exemplar, paragraph 32); and

treating the second grammar as having been spoken by the user (actions are

associated with the exemplars in memory hence when a variant is found to be mapped

to an exemplar it must treat the input as if the exemplar was input in order to obtain the

related action, paragraph 38).

20.   As per claim 15, Alshawi teaches that converting the first grammar to the second

grammar comprises:

referring to a predefined alias-grammar list to determine that the second

grammar correlates with first grammar (variation matcher refers to variation database,

paragraph 32); and

substituting the second grammar for the first grammar (maps string into

exemplar, paragraph 32).

21.   As per claim 16, Alshawi teaches the platform includes logic defining the

predefined alias-grammar list and referring to this list regardless of which user spoke

the first grammar (generic context files are available to all users, paragraph 78).

22.   As per claim 17, Alshawi teaches the alias-grammar list establishes alias-

grammar correlations specific to the user (customization module allows user to add

personalized variants, paragraph 74) and retrieving the alias-grammar list from a user

profile store during a voice command session with the user (recognizer can dynamically

load and switch between language models from the variant database, paragraph 30).

23.   As per claim 18, Alshawi teaches the voice command platform includes a

processor that executes voice command applications (action invoker, Fig. 1, element

111), a given voice command application defining grammars that the platform should

recognize when spoken by a user and associating application-logic with the grammars

(context database contains a set of exemplar action specifications for each application

program, paragraph 37); and wherein treating the second grammar as having been

spoken by the user comprises:

        making a determination that the second grammar is a given one of the grammars

defined by the given voice command application (exemplar is converted to an action for

the voice command application so it must be determined to be one of the defined

grammars, paragraph 38); and

        in response to the determination, executing a set of application-logic that the

given voice command application associates with the given grammar (performs

associated actions to the exemplar, paragraph 38).

24.   As per claim 19, Alshawi teaches the telecommunications network comprises a

wireless communication link (cellular network, paragraph 25).

25.   As per claim 20, Alshawi teaches responding to the first grammar spoken by a

user to a voice command platform, the user having accessed the voice command

platform by placing a telephone call to the voice command platform comprising:

recognizing the first grammar in a speech signal received from the user

recognizer recognizes the input from the user, paragraph 30);;

using a predefined alias-grammar set to determine that a second grammar

correlates with first grammar (variant database, Fig. 1, element 108);

substituting the second grammar for the first grammar (variation matcher uses

variation database to map the recognized string to the exemplar, paragraph 32);

making a determination that the second grammar is defined as an acceptable

grammar by a voice command application being executed by the voice command

platform (exemplar is converted to an action for the voice command application so it

must be determined to be one of the defined grammars, paragraph 38); and

in response to the determination, executing a set of application-logic that the

voice command application associates with the acceptable grammar(performs

associated actions to the exemplar, paragraph 38).

26.   As per claim 21, Alshawi teaches accessing the voice command platform by

placing a cellular telephone call to the voice command platform (cellular network,

paragraph 25).

27.   As per claim 22, Alshawi teaches a user profile store that indicates, for each of a

plurality of users, a set of personal grammars for the user data (customization server

contains customized context files, paragraph 75), wherein the voice command platform

recognizes the personal grammars during a voice command session with the user

(when users uses the system the customized context will be available to the user hence

an executable for retrieving these correlations would be inherent, paragraph 78).

28.   As per claim 23, Alshawi teaches each personal grammar is an alias for a respective other grammar, and wherein the voice command platform translates between the personal grammar and the respective grammar (customized context files contain personal variances corresponding to exemplars and the file would contain the correlation between them, paragraph 76).

29.   As per claim 24, Alshawi teaches the voice command platform is programmed to recognize the personal grammars across a plurality of voice command applications executed by the platform (variant database contains command files for a plurality of applications hence the logic will be executed regardless of which application is currently being processed, paragraph 33).

30.   As per claim 45, Alshawi teaches a method of user-control over a voice command platform comprising:

receiving a speech signal from a user while processing a voice command application (paragraph 64);

recognizing in the speech signal a grammar that is not defined by the voice command application (if user input is recognized as a variant then it was not an exemplar hence not defined by the voice command application, paragraph 32); and

executing a set of logic associated with the grammar (associated action correlating to the exemplar is executed, paragraph 38).

31.   Claims 25, 27, 29-34, 36 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Cohen et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub. 2002/0164000A1).

As per claim 25, Cohen teaches a voice command platform comprising:

a user communication interface for communication with users via a

telecommunications network (access the system through the telephone, paragraph 24);

a processor (browser controller is implemented on a computer, hence it would

inherently have a processor, paragraph 24);

an application-processing module executable by the processor to process voice

command applications (Browser/Controller, Fig. 1, element 102), the voice command

applications having navigation points (system has bookmarks so it would inherently

have naviagation points, Table 1), the voice command applications defining allowed

grammars and application logic (voice pages have dynamic grammars, paragraph 42);

a user profile store including bookmark-data respectively for each of a plurality of

users, wherein a given set of bookmark-data for a given user includes a number of

bookmark-names each pointing to a respective, corresponding navigation point (gives

the user the option of saving bookmarks, table 1, and contains multiple home pages for

multiple users hence there would be a plurality of user profile stores, paragraph 25);

speech-recognition logic executable by the processor for recognizing a

bookmark-name in a speech signal received from the given user via the user

communication interface (a grammar to specify the exact bookmark, "go to bookmark

_____", table 1); and

wherein the processor uses the given set of bookmark-data to identify the

navigation point corresponding to the recognized bookmark-name and the processor

then loads and processes a voice command application that has the navigation point

(the bookmark would inherently have data to identify the corresponding navigation point

and then would load this page corresponding to the navigation point, table 1).

32.   As per claim 27, Cohen teaches the telecommunications network comprises the

public switched telephone network (Fig. 1, element 104).

33.   As per claim 29, Cohen teaches the processor loads a voice command

application from the navigation point corresponding to the recognized bookmark-name

and then processes the voice command application (system has multiple voice

applications that have bookmark capabilities, hence the system would have to load the

voice command application corresponding the bookmark, Fig. 1, elements 112-120 and

Table 1).

34.   As per claim 30, Cohen teaches a bookmark-saving logic executable by the

processor to save a bookmark-name and corresponding navigation point as bookmark-

data for a user (gives the user the option of saving bookmarks and would inherently

have data to identify the corresponding navigation point, table 1).

35.   As per claim 31, Cohen teaches the bookmark-saving logic is executable by the

processor in response to a bookmark save command that a user speaks to the voice

command platform (add this to my bookmarks, table 1).

36.   As per claim 32, Cohen teaches:

        the speech-recognition logic is executable by the processor to recognize a

bookmark-recall command and a bookmark-name in the speech signal received from

the given user via the user communication interface (a grammar to specify the exact

bookmark, "go to bookmark _____", table 1); and

in response to the bookmark recall command, the processor uses the given set

of bookmark-data to identify the navigation point corresponding to the recognized

bookmark-name and the processor then loads and executes a voice command

application from that navigation point (the bookmark would inherently have data to

identify the corresponding navigation point and then would load this page corresponding

to the navigation point, table 1).

37.   As per claim 33, Cohen teaches:

storing, respectively for each of a plurality of users, bookmark-data indicating

bookmark-names and corresponding points of voice command applications (gives the

user the option of saving bookmarks, table 1, and contains multiple home pages for

multiple users hence there would be a plurality of user profile stores, paragraph 25);

receiving from a user, via a telecommunications network, a bookmark-save voice

command, and responsively saving as bookmark-data for the user a pointer to a

designated navigation point (add this to my bookmarks - this would inherently save a

pointer to the designated navigation point, table 1);

receiving from a user, via a telecommunications network, a bookmark-recall

command designating a given bookmark-name (a grammar to specify the exact

bookmark, "go to bookmark _____", table 1); and

using the bookmark-data to identify a given navigation point corresponding to the

given bookmark-name and executing a voice command application that is located at the

given navigation point (the bookmark would inherently have data to identify the

corresponding navigation point and then would load this page corresponding to the navigation point, table 1).

38.   As per claim 34, Cohen teaches the bookmark-management method is executed by a processor on a voice command platform (browser controller is implemented on a computer, hence it would inherently have a processor, paragraph 24).

39.   As per claim 36, Cohen teaches a voice command platform accessible by users over a telecommunications network (Fig. 1), the voice command platform comprising a user profile store that indicates, respectively for each of a plurality of users, a set of bookmarks for the user (gives the user the option of saving bookmarks, table 1, and contains multiple home pages for multiple users hence there would be a plurality of user profile stores, paragraph 25), each bookmark pointing to a navigation point that is accessible by the platform during a voice command session with the user (there is a grammar to specify the exact bookmark that would inherently point to a navigation point, "go to bookmark ____", table 1).

40.   As per claim 37, Cohen teaches a logic executable by the platform to manage the set of bookmarks for the user (system would inherently have this executable in order to execute the grammars set forth in table 1 such as adding, deleting and recalling bookmarks, table 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

41.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

42.   Claims 26, 28 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Cohen et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub. 2002/0164000A1) in view of Xu et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub.

2003/0055649A1).

As per claim 26, Cohen does not teach that the plurality of voice command

applications are VXML applications, and each of a plurality of navigation points are

Universal Resource Indicators.

Nu teaches a speech commanded telephony system where the applications are

VoiceXML applications and the navigation points are Universal Resource Indicators (in

VXML the navigation points would inherently be Universal Resource Indicators,

paragraph 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

invention to modify the system so that the plurality of voice command applications are

VXML applications, and each of a plurality of navigation points are Universal Resource

Indicators as taught by Nu because, as Nu states, VXML specification has been used

as a standard for essentially all telephone-based portal services (paragraph 5).

43.   As per claim 28, Cohen does not specifically teach or point out that the

telecommunications network comprises a wireless communications link.

Nu teaches that the telecommunications network comprises a wireless communications link (Fig. 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the system of Cohen so that the telecommunications network comprises a wireless communications link as taught by Nu because it would make the system more versatile.

44.   As per claim 35, Cohen does not teach that the plurality of voice command applications are VXML applications, and each of a plurality of navigation points are Universal Resource Indicators.

Nu teaches a speech commanded telephony system where the applications are VoiceXML applications and the navigation points are Universal Resource Indicators (in VXML the navigation points would inherently be Universal Resource Indicators, paragraph 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the system so that the plurality of voice command applications are VXML applications, and each of a plurality of navigation points are Universal Resource Indicators as taught by Nu because, as Nu states, VXML specification has been used as a standard for essentially all telephone-based portal services (paragraph 5).

45.   Claims 38-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alshawi in view of Raud et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,125,341).

As per claim 38, Alshawi teaches a voice command platform comprising:

a user communication interface for communication with users via a

telecommunications network (computer telephony platform, paragraph 26);

a processor (Fig. 2, element 203);

an application-processing module executable by the processor to process voice

command applications (Fig. 1, element 115), the voice command applications defining

voice prompts, allowed grammars and application logic (context database contains a set

of exemplar action specifications for each application program, paragraph 37); and

a voice processing module executable by the processor to recognize grammars

in speech signals received from a user via the user communication interface

(recognizer, Fig. 1, element 106 and paragraph 30).

Alshawi does not teach a global-grammar logic executable by the processor to

recognize a set of predefined grammars in speech signals received from users via the

user communication interfaces, regardless of which voice command application is

currently being executed by the processor.

Raud teaches a global-grammar logic executable by the processor to recognize a

set of predefined grammars in speech signals received from users via the user

communication interfaces, regardless of which voice command application is currently

being executed by the processor.(the initial vocabulary that would be global no matter

what the application would be in order to obtain a working vocabulary, col. 4, lines 33-

35).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

invention to modify the system of Alshawi to have a global-grammar logic executable by

the processor to recognize a set of predefined grammars in speech signals received from users via the user communication interfaces, regardless of which voice command application is currently being executed by the processor as taught by Raud because it would give the user certain words that could be spoken at any time during navigation to perhaps ask for help or stop the navigation hence facilitating use.

46.   As per claim 39, Alshawi teaches that in response to a predefined grammar in a speech signal received from a user, the processor executes the logic associated with the given predefined grammar (associated action correlating to the exemplar is executed, paragraph 38).

Alshawi does not teach the global-grammar logic defines logic associated respectively with each predefined grammar.

Raud teaches that the global-grammar defines logic associated respectively with each predefined grammar (initial vocabulary contains correspondence between the words in the initial vocabulary and the words in working vocabularies, col. 5, lines 40-44).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the system of Alshawi so that the global-grammar logic defines logic associated respectively with each predefined grammar as taught by Raud because it would prevent the system from searching elsewhere for this information, hence saving time and speeding up processing.

47.   As per claim 40, Alshawi teaches the telecommunications network comprises a wireless communication link (cellular network, paragraph 25).

48.   Claims 41 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Alshawi in view of Raud and taken in further view of Nu.

As per claim 41, Alshawi teaches a voice command platform comprising:

a user communication interface (computer telephony platform, paragraph 26);

a processor (Fig. 2, element 203);

an application-processing module executable by the processor to process voice

command applications (Fig. 1, element 115) and for communicating speech signals with

the users via the user communication interface, the voice command applications

defining allowed grammars and application logic (context database contains a set of

exemplar action specifications for each application program, paragraph 37); and

wherein, when the platform receives a speech signal from a user, the processor

analyzes the speech signal to determine whether the speech signal represents one of

the allowed grammars defined by the application (recognizer, Fig. 1, element 106 and

paragraph 30).

Alshawi does not teach a global grammar-logic defining a set of global-grammars

that the VXML browser will recognize in speech signals from users, regardless of which

VXML application is currently being processed by the VXML browser.

Raud teaches a global-grammar logic executable by the processor to recognize a

set of predefined grammars in speech signals received from users via the user

communication interfaces, regardless of which voice command application is currently

being executed by the processor.(the initial vocabulary that would be global no matter

what the application would be in order to obtain a working vocabulary, col. 4, lines 33-35).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the system of Alshawi to have a global-grammar logic executable by the processor to recognize a set of predefined grammars in speech signals received from users via the user communication interfaces, regardless of which voice command application is currently being executed by the processor as taught by Raud because it would give the user certain words that could be spoken at any time in during navigation to perhaps ask for help or stop the navigation hence facilitating use.

Neither Alshawi nor Raud teach that the plurality of voice command applications are VXML applications.

Nu teaches a speech commanded telephony system where the applications are VoiceXML applications (paragraph 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the system so that the plurality of voice command applications are VXML applications as taught by Nu because, as Nu states, VXML specification has been used as a standard for essentially all telephone-based portal services (paragraph 5).

49.   As per claim 44, Alshawi teaches an application executed by the platform comprises:

a root document that defines the allowance of a given grammar for the application (context specifications, Fig. 1, element 112);

at least one subsidiary document that references the root document and, by

reference to the root document, assumes allowance of the given grammar (variant

database, Fig. 1, element 108); and

when the platform receives a speech signal from a user while the processor is

processing the at least one subsidiary document, the processor analyzes the speech

signal to determine whether the speech signal represents the given grammar defined by

the root document (if the data string matches an exemplar rather than a variant then the

speech signal represents the grammar defined by the root document, paragraph 42).

Alshawi does not teach determining if the speech-signal represents one of the

global-grammars defined by the global grammar logic.

Raud teaches determining if the speech-signal represents one of the global-

grammars defined by the global grammar logic (searches initial vocabulary to determine

if a match of the speech-signal is found, col. 5, lines 28-34).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

invention to modify the system of Alshawi to determine if the speech-signal represents

one of the global-grammars defined by the global grammar logic as taught by Raud

because it would be important to know if the user needs to perform an action that is not

required by current application, hence better serving the user.

50.   Claims 42 and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Alshawi in view of Raud and taken in further view of Nu and Cohen.

As per claim 42, Alshawi, Raud, and Nu do not teach the global-grammar logic is set forth in a root VXML application that the processor references while processing another VXML application.

Cohen teaches a global-grammar (static grammar) that is set forth in a root application (start page) that the user can reference while processing other applications (paragraph 25).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the system of Alshawi, Raud and Nu so that the global-grammar logic is set forth in a root application that the processor references while processing another application as taught by Cohen because it would allow the grammars from a main application to be used throughout the system hence giving the user more options to navigate the system more effectively.

51.   As per claim 43, Alshawi, Raud, and Nu do not teach the processor loads and executes the root VXML application upon initiation of a voice command session with a user.

Cohen teaches that the root application is loaded upon initiation of a voice command session with a user (personal start page is accessed upon initially dialing into the system, paragraph 23).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the system of Alshawi, Raud, and Nu so that the processor loads and executes the root application upon initiation of a voice command session with a

user as taught by Cohen because it would save the user the trouble of manually loading

the root application for the global-grammar hence again making navigation easier.

Conclusion

52.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure. Maes (U.S. Pat. 2002/0002465A1) teaches using variants of

grammars in speaker-command system. Carberry et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,442,522), Ball et

al. (U.S. Pat. 6,701,294), Lazaridis et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub. 2002/0002453A1), Kist et al.

(U.S. Pat. Pub. 2002/0143535A1), Hambleton et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,178,404), Neuberger

(U.S. Pat. Pub. 2003/0023431), and Weber (U.S. Pat. 6,532,444) teach natural

language interfacing systems.

53.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Matthew J Sked whose telephone number is (703) 305-

8663. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:00 am - 4:30 pm).
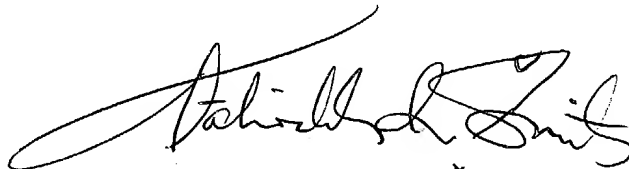
        If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Talivaldis Smits can be reached on (703) 306-3011. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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MS
10/28/04

TĀLIVALDIS IVARS SMITS
PRIMARY EXAMINER